**GROWING UP ASIAN IN AUSTRALIA**

*“Strine”*

Read the stories *The Relative Advantages of Learning My Language* by Amy Choi (pg. 7) and *Chinese Lessons* by Ivy Tseng (pg. 16)

1. What similarities do Amy and Ivy share?
2. How do their experiences with learning their native language differ?
3. Describe the regrets that Amy and Ivy have.
4. Describe an experience you have had where you could not communicate with someone.
5. How important do you think it is for someone to learn their native language? Why?

Read *Sticks and Stones and Such-like* by Sunil Badami.

1. How does Sunil feel about his name?
2. What does Sunil “change” his name to and why? How did his parents feel about it?
3. Sunil’s mother gives Sunil a passionate lecture about his name. What imagery does she use to show him its significance? What does Sunil eventually discover about the meaning of this name?
4. In what ways have you seen people change their names to fit in? Provide examples.
5. Do you think it is more important for someone to keep names from their culture, or adapt to their new society?

Based on what you have understood, create **three statements** that could be used as writing prompts.

e.g. “Language is the key to identity.”

Choose *one* of these statements and write a paragraph to explore it, using either a real-life or made-up experience.